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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/520,580	03/08/2000	ANDREW E FANO	AND1P529	1890

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EXAMINER

VU, THANH T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

DATE MAILED: 07/25/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/520,580

Applicant(s)

FANO ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh T Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-17 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1, 10, and 19 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The claims recited, "...to select from of the images in the frame". The word "of" is misplaced in the claims.

Claim 1, line 7, before "images" there should be the word "the".

Claim 10, line 9, see above.

Claim 19, line 7, see above. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1-8, 10-17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ferguson et al. ("Ferguson", U.S. Pat No. 6,064,984).

4. Per claim 1, Ferguson teaches a method for providing a user interface, comprising the steps of:

(a) displaying a plurality of images in a frame, each of the images representing a goal (Figs. 6 and 14; each image comprises of a plan event icon with one or more additional "arms" (elements 120a, 126, and 124 as show in Fig. 6));

(b) permitting a user to select from the images in the frame (col. 8, lines 47-51);

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(c) permitting the user to adjust preferences related to the goal represented by the selected image in the frame (col. 8, lines 65-68); and

(d) altering the appearance of one or more of the images in the frame based on the adjusted preferences of the goal represented by the selected image (Fig. 6; Col. 9, lines 45-56).

5. Per claim 2, Ferguson teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of permitting a user to adjust preferences related to the goal represented by the selected image in the frame further includes permitting the user to adjust a time expectation for the amount of time expected for achieving the goal represented by the selected image (Col 9, lines 57 – 67).

6. Per claim 3, Ferguson teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of permitting a user to adjust preferences related to the goal represented by the selected image in the frame further includes permitting the user to adjust a quality expectation for the degree of quality expected for the goal represented by the selected image, and wherein appearance of the selected image is altered in relation to the adjustment of the expectation with respect to quality for the goal (Col. 9 line 45-56; Col. 9, lines 57 - 67)

7. Per claim 4, Ferguson teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of permitting a user to adjust preferences related to the goal represented by the selected image in the frame further includes permitting the user to adjust a degree of favoritism between time and quality with respect to the goal of the selected image (Col 9, lines 57-67).

8. Per claim 5, Ferguson teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of: displaying a selectable link to a personal profile frame, and displaying the personal profile frame upon selection of the selectable link, wherein a personal profile of the user is displayed in the personal profile frame (Col. 10, lines 62 – 67)

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9. Per claim 6, Ferguson teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of displaying a selectable link to a financial assumptions frame, and displaying financial assumptions frame upon selection of the selectable link, wherein financial assumptions relating to achieving the financial goals are displayed in the financial assumptions frame (Figs 8-13; Col. 11, lines 8-12).

10. Per claim 7, Ferguson teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying in the frame a summary of changes in achieving the goals as a result of the adjust preferences (Col. 10, lines 56-58)

11. Per claim 8, Ferguson teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the images representing goals include at least one of: a first image for representing a home goal, a second image for representing a vehicle goal, a third image for representing a monthly allowance and savings goal, a fourth image for representing a planned furniture expenses goal, a fifth image for representing a planned appliance expenses goal, a sixth image for representing a vacation goal, a seventh image for representing a children's education goal, an eighth image for representing a planned furniture expenses goal (Fig. 14; Col 7. lines 63-67).

12. Claims 10-17 are similar in scope to claim 1-8 respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

13. Claim 19 is similar in scope to claim 1 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Allowable Subject Matter

14. Claims 9 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Jones et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,021,397) discloses a financial advisory system.

Maggioncalda et al (US. Pat. No. 6,012,044) discloses a user interface for a financial advisory system.

Inquiries

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh T Vu whose telephone number is (703)-308-9119. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L Kincaid can be reached on (703) 308-0640. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)-746-7239 for regular communications and (703)-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

TV
July 23, 2002

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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